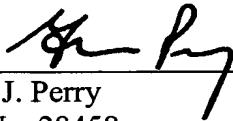


REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this amendment is requested along with an early action on the merits of this application. By this amendment, claims 8 and 15 have been amended and claims 1-7, 10-14, and 16 remain cancelled. Claims 8, 9, and 15 and new Claims 17 and 18 are pending.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP



Glenn J. Perry
Reg. No. 28458
Tel. No. (703) 905-2000
Fax No. (703) 905-2500

Date: November 21, 2003

P.O. Box 10500
McLean, VA 22102
(703) 905-2000